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proach. During the past year the aggregate length of the Railway lines has been increased by 179 miles, 9 lines having been extended, and thus the total length of the Railways in operation, for the conveyance of goods and passengers, is 1829 miles: it was 1650 at the date of the previous Report. The number of passengers carried upon 50 Railways, during the 12 months from the 1st July 1841 to the 1st July 1842, amounted to 18,453,504, of whom 2,926,980 were first-class passengers, 7,611,966 second-class, 5,332,501 third-class, and 2,582,057 passengers whose class is not distinguished.

The Returns from five or six Railways are not completed, which, if added to the above, would make the total number of passengers for the year about 19,000,000, of whom, in round numbers, 18 per cent. travelled by the first-class, 50 per cent. by the second, and 32 per cent. by the third-class. During the same period the gross receipts of the above 50 Railways from passengers, amounted to 2,731,687*l.*, and from goods to 1,088,835*l.* The Returns of the number of trains employed on each line are not given with sufficient accuracy in every case to arrive at an exact conclusion of their number. It appears, however, from all the Returns given, that the number of the trains amounted to 298,974, which gives 61 persons to each train, and as only two or three lines have omitted to make Returns, the above number may be considered as a close approximation to the actual number of trains employed. The lines upon which the trains travel with the greatest speed are the following; and it will be observed, on comparing this Table with the similar one in the abstract of the last Railway Report, at page 226, vol. v., of the Journal, that but little change has been made:—

Lines on which the Trains travel at the greatest speed.

Railways.	Average speed exclusive of stoppages.
Northern and Eastern	36 miles per hour.
Great Western	33 ,,
Newcastle and North Shields	30 ,,
North Midland	29 ,,
Birmingham and Derby	29 ,,
Midland Counties	28 ,,
Chester and Birkenhead	28 ,,
London and Birmingham	27 ,,
Manchester and Birmingham	25 ,,

The average speed (exclusive of stoppages) on all the lines is 21½ miles per hour.

House of Refuge for Juvenile Offenders, Glasgow.

By T. Tancred, Esq.

This excellent institution was set on foot a few years since, chiefly by the exertions and at the expense of a few noble-minded merchants of Glasgow, aided by smaller contributions from several of the other inhabitants. It consists of a handsome building, about a mile out of the town, situated on a rising ground, and approached from the turnpike by a private road. It is designed for the reception of boys taken up by the police for petty thieving, who are not convicted, but to whom the benefits of the instruction and discipline of this asylum are offered, if they choose to enter it, instead of being sent to prison.

A few are admitted on the representation of the active and philanthropic superintendent of the police force of the city, Captain Miller. Upon their arrival at the House of Refuge a variety of particulars, illustrative of their previous life and history, are entered in a register. From this record, a table was expressly compiled for me, in the early part of last year, through the kindness of the director of the institution, a licentiate of the Church of Scotland.

The inmates of the Glasgow House of Refuge are engaged during the greater portion of the day in learning a trade, the principal trades taught being tailoring and nail-making to the elder boys; winding yarn for weavers to the younger. The rest of the day is spent by the inmates in an excellent school, in playing together in the open air, at meals, and in religious exercises. This institution having been commenced and maintained for a few years by private munificence, as an experiment, was found to have succeeded so well, though much cramped by the want of sufficient funds, that a Bill has now passed through Parliament, constituting it one of the public institutions of the city, and of that ward of Lanarkshire, and consequently imposing the maintenance of it upon the public rates. It is to be hoped that the stability thus given to the institution will enable the director to procure land for the purpose of instructing the inmates in out-door labour, the want of which previously appeared to me to render necessary too much confinement to sedentary occupations.

An analysis of 266 cases exhibits in a striking manner some of the chief motives of juvenile delinquency. The number of orphans or fatherless children, abandoned to the corruption to which their unprotected state necessarily exposes them in a large city, shows the need of such an institution as the House of Refuge being attached to every town of more than a certain population; particularly in Scotland, where the want of an uniform and efficient system for the relief of destitution leaves so many helpless beings no other alternative but crime or starvation. But even in our own country, the experience of all who have investigated the subject, goes to prove that the ranks of criminals are principally recruited from the young thieves and vagrants, whom want of proper training has brought into crime, at first of a trifling nature, but after the commission of which no institution is open as a refuge for the recovery of character, so that after a certain course of plunder and violence, of longer or shorter duration, according to circumstances, during which the country is put to considerable cost, not only by the direct destruction of property, but also by the expenses of the several trials, imprisonments, &c., the convict at last has to be transported and maintained at the expense of his country in a distant land. This obvious defect in our institutions, the House of Refuge at Glasgow is designed to remedy, though hitherto it has not been able for want of funds to do all the good it might in the *prevention* of crime, by opening its doors to all whose circumstances exposed them to go wrong. Hitherto the qualification necessary for becoming an inmate has been, that the candidate must have been taken up by the police on suspicion at least.

The return exhibits the following results, which seem clearly to point out the *want of parental care and support* as one of the greatest causes of juvenile crime:—

Males in the House up to May, 1841		266	
Of these were deprived of the care of *both* parents		82	
Being—Orphans	68		
Foundlings	3		
Mother dead, deserted by father	4		
Father a soldier, deserted by mother	1		
Father dead and mother in Bridewell	2		
Father a soldier and mother abroad	1		
Both parents transported	1		
Mother dead and father transported	1		
Mother dead and father a worthless character	1		
	—		82
Deprived of the care of one or other parent		135	
Viz.:—Fathers dead	93		
Mothers dead	42		
	—		135
Remainder with both parents being only			49
			266

With regard to the employments of those who had followed any calling for a considerable period, the influence of such occupations as tobacco-works, cotton mills, assisting at hand-loom weaving, &c., which usually lead to no permanent livelihood for the adult, is seen to be injurious to morality. A summary, indeed, does not present this matter correctly, for in regard to many it is difficult to say under which occupation they should be entered, they having, perhaps, worked at several; as, for instance, No. 112, James Cairns is described as having worked 2 years at a paper work, 3 months in a shop, 2 years as a draw boy, and 2 years in a cotton mill. It is difficult to know to which occupation to attribute the credit of his education. A more numerous class are those who have never had any steady employment, as No. 54, Robert Roach, who was 4 months in a coal-pit, 6 months in a pottery, 3 months in Bridewell, 1 month in a rope work, and 6 months weaving. In cases like this, where they were less than a-year at any employment, they are entered in the following summary as irregular:—

Employment of Inmates of House of Refuge.

Cotton mills and other mills	38
Weaving	38
Tobacco-works	26
Print-fields	12
Rope-works	6
Sweeps	3
Driving Track-boats	2
Nail-making	2
Brush-making	2
Wrights	2
Pin-making	2
Assistants to painters, carriers, machine-makers, colliers, calendars, bonnet-makers, bakers, shoemaker, glazier, bookbinder, pottery, of each one	11
	144
Some were errand boys or at sea for a few months.	
Total irregularly employed	122
	266

NOTE.—Having been permitted by Mr. Tancred to communicate the above paper to the Society, I will merely add an analysis of the columns relating to instruction.

Total cases recorded	266	
Of these, had never been at school		54
Had been, from 1 to 6 months		55
,, from 6 to 18 months		56
,, from 18 months to 2 years and upwards		101
		266

Of the 101 who had been at school 18 months and upwards, 79 could not write; of these, 24 could neither read nor write. Only 22 of the 101 could both read and write. S. TREMENHEERE, F.S.S.

Statistics of an Agricultural Parish in Bedfordshire. Collected by JOHN EDWARD MARTIN, Esq., Froxfield, Eversholt, near Woburn.

THE parish to which these memoranda relate is that of Eversholt, containing 199 houses, occupied by 290 families, of whom 207 are English, and 2 Irish.

Male children	200
Female children	180
Adult males	239
Adult Females	264
Aged and infirm males	1
Aged and infirm females	26
Total Population	926

Number of families possessing Bible or Testament	197
Number of families not possessing any religious book	12
Number of families professing to belong to the Church of England	161
Number of families professing to be dissenters	29
Number of families of no exclusive religious profession	17
Number of families who do not attend public worship	2

6 families read the Northampton Mercury (Whig paper.)
6 families read the Weekly Chronicle.
1 family reads the Weekly Despatch.
1 family reads Bell's Messenger.

57 houses contain miscellaneous pictures.
1 house contains serious pictures.
The average rent of cottages in this parish is 3*l.* per annum.

Most of the cottages have allotments of 20 poles each, for which they pay 5*s* per annum, being at the rate of 2*l.* per acre.

24 male children attend day and Sunday school.
21 female children attend day and Sunday school.
22 male children attend Sunday school only.
27 female children attend Sunday school only.
24 male children attend infant school.
18 female children attend infant school.

136 Children receiving instruction.

The daily scholars pay 2*d.* per week.
The infant scholars pay 1*d.* per week.
Total weekly payments of the children attending school 8*s.* 7*d.*

March 15*th*, 1843.